

Europäisches Patentamt

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(11) **EP 1 049 317 A3** 

(12)

#### **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3: 17.10.2001 Bulletin 2001/42

(51) Int CI.7: H04N 1/00

(43) Date of publication A2: 02.11.2000 Bulletin 2000/44

(21) Application number: 00303435.2

(22) Date of filing: 25.04.2000

(84) Designated Contracting States:

AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU

MC NL PT SE

Designated Extension States:

AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: 26.04.1999 JP 11814399

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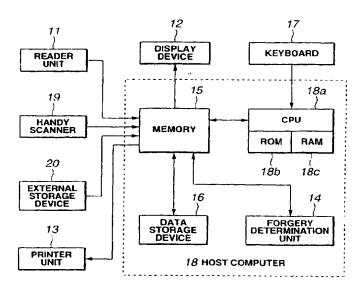
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### (54) Color-image processing apparatus and method, and storage medium

(57) Conventionally, a color-image processing apparatus, such as a computer, or the like, cannot determine whether or not color-image data stored in an image storage device, such as a hard disk, or the like, is an image corresponding to a specific original. According to the present invention, a color-image processing apparatus includes a determination unit for comparing color-

image data stored in an image storage device with a pattern stored in a pattern storage device. The color-image data stored in the image storage device is read with a predetermined timing, and determination by the determination unit is performed. The color-image processing apparatus is a computer, and the image storage device is a hard disk.

### FIG.1



Printed by Jouve, 75001 PARIS (FR)



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number EP 00 30 3435

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### **EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number EP 00 30 3435

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# ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

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